B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In order to better assist the Examiner with the prosecution of the case, the current pending claims have been included in their entirety for which allowance is requested. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method, in at least one server system for enabling at least one messaging session via an instant messaging channel through a network between at least a selection of a plurality of separate client systems communicatively connected to said network, for recording a messaging session, said method comprising the steps of:

in response to receiving a request to record a messaging session at said server system, detecting a separate authorization level of each separate user from among said plurality of users participating in said messaging session via said plurality of separate client systems;

determining a selection of users from among a plurality of users at said plurality of separate client systems each with said separate authorization level within a particular authorization requirement for said particular messaging session;

submitting a separate approval request to each of said selection of said plurality of users;

responsive to each of said selection of said plurality of users authorizing said request, recording a log of a requested selection of a plurality of message entries associated with said messaging session, separate from distributing said plurality of message entries to said selection of said plurality of separate client systems; and

notifying said plurality of users participating in said messaging session via said selection of said plurality of separate client systems of said recording of said requested selection of said plurality of message entries.

2.	(Cancelled).

3.	(Previously Presented) The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the steps of:

detecting, within said request to record said messaging session from a particular user from among said plurality of users, at least one criteria for selecting which of said plurality of message entries to record, wherein said at least one criteria specifies recording messages entered only by at least one other identified user from among said plurality of users participating in said messaging session; and

only recording into said log said requested selection of said plurality of message entries entered by said at least one other identified user from among said plurality of users.

4.	(Previously Presented) The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the steps of:

responsive to determining a selection of users from among said plurality of users at said plurality of separate client systems each with said separate authorization level within a particular authorization requirement for said particular messaging session, detecting within a database at said messaging server at least one authorizing user of said selection of users that automatically provides approval for said recording request based on an identity of a particular user making said request to record said messaging session, wherein said authorizing user is removed from said selection of users required to respond to said approval request.

5.	(Previously Presented) The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

in response to receiving a request to stop recording at said server system, stopping recording of said messaging session into said log.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:
     storing said log recording said messaging session at a message repository.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:
     transmitting said log recording said messaging session to said plurality of users participating in said messaging session.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:
     receiving said request to record from a user participating in said messaging session.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:
     receiving said request to record from a user logged into said server system but not designated as a participant in said messaging session, wherein said user is authorized to record said messaging session.

10. (Previously Presented) The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said step of notifying a plurality of users participating in said messaging session of said recording of said requested selection of said plurality of message entries further comprising the steps of:

accessing, at said messaging server, for each of said plurality of users, a separate selection of recording preferences identifying for each separate type of computing system a type of output requested for a recording indicator; and

notifying each of said plurality of users by transmitting a separate recording indicator to each of said plurality of users at said plurality of client systems for output according said separate selection of recording preferences for each separate user from among said plurality of users.

11.   (Previously Presented) A system for recording a messaging session, said system comprising:

a messaging server communicatively connected to a network, said messaging server for enabling at least one messaging session via an instant messaging channel through said network between at least a selection of a plurality of separate client systems communicatively connected to said network to facilitate said messaging session;

said messaging server further comprising:

means, in response to receiving a request to record a messaging session at said server system, for detecting a separate authorization level of each separate user from among said plurality of users participating in said messaging session via said plurality of separate client systems;

means for determining a selection of users from among a plurality of users at said plurality of separate client systems each with said separate authorization level within a particular authorization requirement for said particular messaging session;

means for submitting a separate approval request to each of said selection of said plurality of users;

means, responsive to each of said selection of said plurality of users authorizing said request, for recording a log of a requested selection of a plurality of message entries associated with said messaging session, separate from distributing said plurality of message entries to said selection of said plurality of separate client systems; and

means for notifying said plurality of users participating in said messaging session via said selection of said plurality of separate client systems of said recording of said requested selection of said plurality of message entries.

12.   (Previously Presented) The system for recording a messaging session according to claim 11, said messaging server further comprising:

    means for detecting, within said request to record said messaging session from a particular user from among said plurality of users, at least one criteria for selecting which of said plurality of message entries to record, wherein said at least one criteria specifies recording messages entered only by at least one other identified user from among said plurality of users participating in said messaging session; and

    means for only recording into said log said requested selection of said plurality of message entries entered by said at least one other identified user from among said plurality of users.

13.   (Previously Presented) The system for recording a messaging session according to claim 11, said messaging server further comprising:

    means, responsive to determining a selection of users from among said plurality of users at said plurality of separate client systems each with said separate authorization level within a particular authorization requirement for said particular messaging session, for detecting within a database at said messaging server at least one authorizing user of said selection of users that automatically provides approval for said recording request based on an identity of a particular user making said request to record said messaging session, wherein said authorizing user is removed from said selection of users required to respond to said approval request.

14.   (Previously Presented) The system for recording a messaging session according to claim 11, said messaging server further comprising:

    means for stopping recording of said messaging session into said log, in response to receiving a request to stop recording.

15. (Previously Presented) The system for recording a messaging session according to claim 11, said messaging server further comprising:

means for storing said log recording said messaging session at a message repository.

16. (Previously Presented) The system for recording a messaging session according to claim 11, said messaging server further comprising:

means for transmitting said log recording said messaging session to said plurality of users participating in said messaging session.

17. (Previously Presented) The system for recording a messaging session according to claim 11, said messaging server further comprising:

means for receiving said request to record from a user participating in said messaging session.

18. (Previously Presented) The system for recording a messaging session according to claim 11, said messaging server further comprising:

means for receiving said request to record from a user logged into said server system but not designated as a participant in said messaging session, wherein said user is authorized to record said messaging session.

19.   (Previously Presented) The system for recording a messaging session according to claim 11, said means for notifying said plurality of users participating in said messaging session of said recording of said requested selection of said plurality of message entries further comprising:

means for accessing for each of said plurality of users, a separate selection of recording preferences identifying for each separate type of computing system a type of output requested for a recording indicator; and

means for notifying each of said plurality of users by transmitting a separate recording indicator to each of said plurality of users at said plurality of client systems for output according said separate selection of recording preferences for each separate user from among said plurality of users.

20.   (Previously Presented) A program for recording a messaging session, residing on a tangible computer usable medium having computer readable program code means, said program comprising:

means for enabling at least one messaging session via an instant messaging channel through a network between at least a selection of a plurality of separate client systems communicatively connected to said network,

means, in response to receiving a request to record said messaging session, for detecting a separate authorization level of each separate user from among said plurality of users participating in said messaging session via said plurality of separate client systems;

means for determining a selection of users from among a plurality of users at said plurality of separate client systems each with said separate authorization level within a particular authorization requirement for said particular messaging session;

means for submitting a separate approval request to each of said selection of said plurality of users;

means, responsive to each of said selection of said plurality of users authorizing said request, for enabling recording a log of a requested selection of a plurality of message entries associated with said messaging session, separate from distributing said plurality of message entries to said selection of said plurality of separate client systems; and

means for notifying said plurality of users participating in said messaging session via said selection of said plurality of separate client systems of said recording of said requested selection of said plurality of message entries.

21.   (Previously Presented) The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 20, said program further comprising:

means for detecting, within said request to record said messaging session from a particular user from among said plurality of users, at least one criteria for selecting which of said plurality of message entries to record, wherein said at least one criteria specifies recording messages entered only by at least one other identified user from among said plurality of users participating in said messaging session; and

means for only recording into said log said requested selection of said plurality of message entries entered by said at least one other identified user from among said plurality of users.

22.   (Previously Presented) The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 20, said program further comprising:

means, responsive to determining a selection of users from among said plurality of users at said plurality of separate client systems each with said separate authorization level within a particular authorization requirement for said particular messaging session, for detecting within a database at said messaging server at least one authorizing user of said selection of users that automatically provides approval for said recording request based on an identity of a particular user making said request to record said messaging session, wherein said authorizing user is removed from said selection of users required to respond to said approval request.

23.   (Previously Presented) The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 21, said program further comprising:

means for stopping recording of said messaging session into said log, in response to receiving a request to stop recording.

24. (Previously Presented) The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 21, said program further comprising:

   means for enabling storage of said log recording said messaging session at a message repository.

25. (Previously Presented) The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 21, said program further comprising:

   means for enabling transmission of said log recording said messaging session to said plurality of users participating in said messaging session.

26. (Previously Presented) The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 21, said program further comprising:

   means for enabling receipt of said request to record from a user participating in said messaging session.

27. (Previously Presented) The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 21, said program further comprising:

   means for enabling receipt of said request to record from a user logged into said server system but not designated as a participant in said messaging session, wherein said user is authorized to record said messaging session.

28.   (Previously Presented) The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 21, said means for notifying said plurality of users participating in said messaging session of said recording of said requested selection of said plurality of message entries further comprising:

means for accessing for each of said plurality of users, a separate selection of recording preferences identifying for each separate type of computing system a type of output requested for a recording indicator; and

means for notifying each of said plurality of users by transmitting a separate recording indicator to each of said plurality of users at said plurality of client systems for output according said separate selection of recording preferences for each separate user from among said plurality of users.

Claims 29-54 (Canceled).